

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 07323 061718Z

43

ACTION ITF-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 FDRE-00 OPR-02

A-01 PER-01 H-02 SCA-01 AID-05 VO-03 SR-02 ORM-01

SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06

PRS-01 SP-02 /084 W

----- 040207

P R 061704Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9894

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

USMISSION USBERLIN

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY MANILA

GOV/GUAM

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 07323

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AEMG, GW, VS

SUBJECT: VIETNAMESE REFUGEES

REF: BONN 6943

1. AS FOLLOW-UP TO THE DEMARCHE OUTLINED IN REFTTEL, THE
AMBASSADOR CALLED DR. LAHN (POLITICAL DIRECTOR IN THE
FOREIGN OFFICE FOR THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES) TO INQUIRE
ABOUT THE FRG'S CONSIDERATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF VIETNAMESE
REFUGEES. LAHN SAID THE MATTER WOULD BE PUT TO THE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BONN 07323 061718Z

CABINET ON MAY 7. GIVEN THE POSITIVE APPROACH OF

MINISTER GENSCHER, HE ANTICIPATED A FAVORABLE DECISION BY THE CABINET. THE CABINET DECISION COULD NOT REPRESENT A FINAL FRG COMMITMENT SINCE THE AUTHORITY TO GRANT PERMITS TO STAY IN THE FRG LIES WITH THE INDIVIDUAL STATES (LAENDER). LAHN DID NOT THINK, HOWEVER, THAT THE LAENDER GOVERNMENTS WOULD RESIST A FAVORABLE CABINET DECISION SO LONG AS THE NUMBERS INVOLVED WERE NOT TOO OVERWHELMING. LAHN COMMENTED THAT THERE ARE BETWEEN 1,000 AND 1,500 VIETNAMESE STUDENTS IN THE FRG OF WHOM MANY WOULD PRESUMABLY WANT TO STAY AND BRING THEIR RELATIVES AS WELL.

2. THE LOCAL "CHIEF OF MISSION" FOR ICEM BAKKERS, CALLED ON THE EMBASSY MAY 5 TO INFORM US THAT ICEM HAD BEEN APPROACHED BY THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AND THAT HE HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED BY HIS HEAD OFFICE TO TALK WITH THE GERMANS TO FIND OUT WHAT THEIR PLANS WERE AND TO ASK HOW ICEM COULD BE HELPFUL. BAKKERS, WHO WAS AWARE OF OUR APPROACH TO THE GERMANS, SAID HE UNDERSTOOD THAT THE GERMANS WERE INITIALLY CONSIDERING PERMISSIONS TO STAY FOR THOSE VIETNAMESE STUDENTS WHO DESIRED TO REMAIN AND POSSIBLY FOR THEIR FAMILIES. BAKKERS WAS OPERATING WITH A FIGURE OF ABOUT 1,000 STUDENTS SO THAT, ASSUMING AN AVERAGE FAMILY SIZE OF FIVE, THE NUMBERS INVOLVED IN THIS CATEGORY COULD THEORETICALLY REACH 5,000. BAKKERS ASKED US HOW HE MIGHT BE HELPFUL IN HIS FURTHER TALKS WITH THE GERMANS; EMBOFF SUGGESTED, INTER ALIA, THAT HE MIGHT TRY TO ENCOURAGE THEM NOT TO DEFINE TOO NARROWLY THE GROUP OF PERSONS THE FRG WOULD BE WILLING TO ACCEPT.

3. AS INDICATED IN BONN'S 7156, ONE OF FORMER AMBASSADOR THIEP'S LAST OFFICIAL ACTS WAS TO SEND A NOTE TO THE FOREIGN OFFICE REQUESTING POLITICAL ASYLUM FOR HIMSELF AND ALL MEMBERS OF HIS STAFF WHO DESIRED IT. WE KNOW THAT THIEP DOES NOT INTEND TO STAY HERE PERMANENTLY IF HE CAN AVOID IT AND WE DOUBT THAT MANY MEMBERS OF HIS STAFF WILL WISH TO DO SO EITHER. WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT INTERIM PERMITS TO STAY WILL DEFINITELY BE GRANTED TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE VIETNAMESE EMBASSY STAFF WHO DESIRE THEM. REQUESTS FOR POLITICAL ASYLUM ARE HANDLED BY AN INDEPENDENT-CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BONN 07323 061718Z

ENT COMMITTEE WHICH SITS AS A KIND OF COURT. FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IS THEREFORE NOT IN A POSITION TO MAKE COMMITMENTS CONCERNING THE GRANTING OF POLITICAL ASYLUM. HOWEVER, OUR FOREIGN OFFICE CONTACTS THINK IT MOST UNLIKELY THAT A REQUEST FOR POLITICAL ASYLUM BY A FORMER VIETNAMESE OFFICIAL WOULD BE REJECTED. HILLENBRAND

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BONN07323
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750158-0819
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750575/aaaacqhf.tel
Line Count: 114
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ITF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 BONN 6943
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 APR 2003 by Izenbel0>; APPROVED <15 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VIETNAMESE REFUGEES
TAGS: AEMR, GE, VS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006